

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated March 22, 2007, claims 1-14 and 16-20 were presented for examination. Claims 1-14 and 16-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1-14 and 16-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Lennon et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0107973 in view of *Dickman et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,877,765.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the careful and thorough review and action on the merits in this application.

I. Examiner's Interview of July 11, 2007

In response to the Examiner's Interview of July 11, 2007, Applicants' Attorney hereby submits a summary of the interview.

On July 11, 2007, Applicants' Attorney and Examiner Ly had a telephone interview to discuss the outstanding Office Action. There was no exhibit or demonstration of the invention provided. The claims discussed during the interview included outstanding independent claims 1, 8, and 14. The interview took place following issuance of a Non-Final Office Action and subsequent to submission of a response thereto. It was discussed how the amendments to the independent claims did not overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 to claim a tangible result. Applicants' Attorney suggested alternative language which the Examiner agreed if amended into the claims should overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101.

In addition to the discussion of the statutory rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101, the Examiner indicated that the amendment to the claims may not overcome the rejection under 35

U.S.C. §103(a). More specifically, the prior art reference to *Lennon* was discussed. It was noted that *Lennon* pertains to extracting metadata of software, whereas Applicants' invention pertains to extracting metadata of hardware resources. The Examiner indicated he would fully consider the arguments presented and would respond in due course.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §101

In the Office Action dated March 22, 2007, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 8, and 14, as not producing a useful or tangible result. Applicants have amended each of these claims to specify that a response of the executed function is displayed to an operator. Support for these amendments is found in the Specification on page 2, lines 18-18. No new matter has been added to the application with the amendments presented herein. This amendment was discussed with the Examiner during the interview of July 11, 2007, where it was preliminarily determined that such language would overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101. Accordingly, in view of the amendments presented herein, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner remove the rejection of claims 1-14 and 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. §101.

III. Conclusion

Applicants believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicants are not conceding in this application that the prior condition of these claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the examiner. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner indicate allowability of claims 1-14 and 16-20, and that the application pass to issue. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution

of the application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

For the reasons outlined above, withdrawal of the rejection of record and an allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /Rochelle Lieberman /
Rochelle Lieberman
Registration No. 39,276
Attorney for Applicants

Lieberman & Brandsdorfer, LLC
802 Still Creek Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
Phone: (301) 948-7775
Fax: (301) 948-7774
Email: rocky@legalplanner.com

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